phosphatase **STEP** (Lombroso *et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88*: 7242-7246 (1991)), (4) ezrin-domain containing PTPases: **PTPMEG1** (Gu*et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88*: 5867-57871 (1991)), **PTPH1** (Yang and Tonks, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88*: 5949-5953 (1991)), **PTPD1 and PTPD2** (Møller *et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91*: 7477-7481 (1994)), **FAP-1/BAS** (Sato *et al., Science 268*: 411-415 (1995); Banville *et al., J. Biol. Chem. 269*: 22320-22327 (1994); Maekawa *et al., FEBS Letters 337*: 200-206 (1994)), and SH2 domain containing PTPases: **PTP1C/SH-PTP1/SHP-1** (Plutzky *et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89*: 1123-1127 (1992); Shen *et al., Nature Lond. 352*: 736-739 (1991)) and **PTP1D/Syp/SH-PTP2/SHP-2** (Vogel *et al., Science 259*: 1611-1614 (1993); Feng *et al., Science 259*: 1607-1611 (1993); Bastein *et al., Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm. 196*: 124-133 (1993)).

Receptor-type PTPases consist of a) a putative ligand-binding extracellular domain, b) a transmembrane segment, and c) an intracellular catalytic region. The structures and sizes of the putative ligand-binding extracellular domains of receptor-type PTPases are quite divergent. In contrast, the intracellular catalytic regions of receptor-type PTPases are very homologous to each other and to the intracellular PTPases. Most receptor-type PTPases have two tandemly duplicated catalytic PTPase domains.

The first receptor-type PTPases to be identified were (1) **CD45/LCA** (Ralph, S.J., *EMBO J. 6*: 1251-1257 (1987)) and (2) **LAR** (Streuli *et al., J. Exp. Med. 168*: 1523-1530 (1988)) that were recognized to belong to this class of enzymes based on homology to PTP1B (Charbonneau *et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 86*: 5252-5256 (1989)). CD45 is a family of high molecular weight glycoproteins and is one of the most abundant leukocyte cell surface glycoproteins and appears to be exclusively expressed upon cells of the hematopoietic system (Trowbridge and Thomas, *Ann. Rev. Immunol. 12*: 85-116 (1994)).

The identification of CD45 and LAR as members of the PTPase family was quickly followed by identification and cloning of